

RESPONDING TO THE PSALMS – June 2025

a project of the Spirituality Committee of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

We offer the Sunday Responsorial Psalm as a focus for prayer and reflection during the week ahead for yourself or share with others. You could note your own thoughts as a possible personal journal.

As we thank God for Francis's ministry as Pope we ask God's Holy Spirit to be with Pope LEO as our shepherd and Bishop of Rome. His words on visiting St Paul's Basilica invite us to reflect on how we play our part in the mission of the Church over which he presides in charity. Every new beginning offers a chance to reflect and renew our baptismal commitment to live the gospel with and for one another in Christ.

As we thank the Lord for the calling that changed Saul's life, let us ask him to enable us to respond in the same way to his grace, and to become, ourselves, witnesses of the love "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us" (Rom 5:5). Let us ask the Lord for the grace to cultivate and spread his charity, and to become true neighbours to one another (cf. Pope Francis 2024) Let us compete in showing the love that, following his encounter with Christ, drove the former persecutor to become "all things to all people" (cf. 1 Cor 9:19-23), even to the point of martyrdom. In this way, for us as for Paul, the weakness of the flesh will show the power of faith in God that brings justification (cf. Rom 5:1-5).....

I would like to conclude, though, by recalling the words that Pope Benedict XVI, addressed to young people: "Dear friends," he said, "God loves us. This is the great truth of our life; it is what makes everything else meaningful." Indeed, "our life originates as part of a loving plan of God," and faith leads us to "open our hearts to this mystery of love and to live as men and women conscious of being loved by God" (Madrid, 2011). Here we see, in all its simplicity and uniqueness, the basis of every mission, including my own mission as the Successor of Peter and the heir to Paul's apostolic zeal. May the Lord grant me the grace to respond faithfully to his call.

Leo XIV – 20 May – visiting the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls

June 2025

Sunday 1 June 2025

Seventh Sunday of Eastertime – Year C

Sunday 8 June 2025

Solemnity of Pentecost – Year C

Sunday 15 June 2025

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity – Year C

Sunday 22 June 2025

Solemnity of Corpus et Sanguis Christi – Year C

Sunday 22 June 2025

Solemnity of the Apostles Peter and Paul – Year C

Sunday 1 June 2025 7th Sunday of Easter C

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97(96):1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9. R 1a, 9b

THE LORD IS KING, MOST HIGH ABOVE ALL THE EARTH.

OR: ALLELUIA.

The LORD is king, let earth rejoice;

let the many islands be glad.

Justice and right are the foundation of his throne.

Find ways for yourself to still rejoice in the Resurrection as we are still in Eastertime

Pray that the Risen Christ will bring justice and righteousness to all who suffer injustice and oppression

The skies proclaim his justice;

all peoples see his glory.

All you angels, worship him.

Pray for all who travel by air, how it brings peoples together across the world

Pray with your Guardian Angel in praise of the Risen Lord

For you indeed are the LORD,

most high above all the earth,

exalted far above all gods.

Take time to reflect that the Risen and Ascended Christ calls us to live with him one day

Pray that we will be able to share the message of the Resurrection with more people

Sunday 8 June 2025 Pentecost - Mass of the Day

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 104(103):1ab, 24ac. 29b-30. 31, 34. *R* cf. 30

SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT, O LORD, AND RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

OR: ALLELUIA.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O LORD my God, how great you are!

How many are your works, O LORD!

The earth is full of your creatures.

Look around at the world and praise God for his creation

Reflect on the people you know and how they are made in the image of God

You take away their breath, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.

You send forth your spirit, and they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.

Pray for eternal life for all who have died over the last year, remembering any close to you

Pray for all those who have been born this year or are to come into our world soon

May the glory of the LORD last for ever!

May the LORD rejoice in his works!

May my thoughts be pleasing to him.

I will rejoice in the LORD.

Pray that we will all take greater care of our common home, God's creation

Reflect on how you can find greater joy in your life and share that with others

Sunday 15 June 2025 Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity - C

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 8:4-5. 6-7. 8-9. R2a

*O LORD, OUR LORD,
HOW MAJESTIC IS YOUR NAME THROUGH ALL THE EARTH!*

When I see the heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars which you arranged,
what is man that you should keep him in mind,
the son of man that you care for him?

*Reflect that God did not need to make the world or ourselves. What a generous gift of life!
More than that God knows each one of individually as daughter or son. How incredible!*

Yet you have made him little lower than the angels;
with glory and honour you crowned him,
gave him power over the works of your hands:
you put all things under his feet.

*Thank God for the talents and goodness of your life as a unique individual
Pray to use your gifts for the benefit of the gospel and other people*

All of them, sheep and oxen,
yes, even the cattle of the fields,
birds of the air, and fish of the sea
that make their way through the waters.

*Pray for more people to see the wonderful act of the creator through reflecting on the world
Think how all creation reflects the love of the Trinity for us as human beings*

Sunday 22 June 2025 Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ - C

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 110(109):1. 2. 3. 4. R4bc

YOU ARE A PRIEST FOR EVER, ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK.

The LORD's revelation to my lord:

'Sit at my right hand,
until I make your foes your footstool.'

Thank God that in the Eucharist you can be so close to Christ, indeed at his right hand

Thank God that in this relationship you can feel secure in his care for you

The LORD will send from Sion

your sceptre of power:

rule in the midst of your foes.

Pray for all who have power in the world today that they will use it for the common good

Pray for all who suffer from the misuse of power in any context that they will be saved

With you is princely rule

on the day of your power.

In holy splendour, from the womb before the dawn,

I have begotten you.

Pray to use the strength you receive from the Eucharist to live a better life as a Christian

Thank God for the wonder of your creation as a person with so many gifts

The LORD has sworn an oath he will not change:

'You are a priest for ever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.'

Renew the promises of your baptism and confirmation as priest, prophet and king

Pray for all priests in their ministry and service, especially as ministers of the Eucharist

Sunday 29 June 2025 Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 34(33):2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. R5

FROM ALL MY TERRORS THE LORD SET ME FREE.

I will bless the LORD at all times,
praise of him is always in my mouth.
In the LORD my soul shall make its boast;
the humble shall hear and be glad.

*Thank God for the Church, built on the mission and faith of the apostles
Thank God for your place in the Church and what your baptism means to you*

Glorify the LORD with me;
together let us praise his name.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free.

*Thank God for the gift of sharing worship in your community with other Christians
Reflect on your life and thank God for the times he has helped you face difficult situations*

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This lowly one called; the LORD heard,
and rescued him from all his distress.

*Just stop and simply be glad that God cares for you
Pray for people who have no hope, for those who have lost faith*

The angel of the LORD is encamped
around those who fear him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the LORD is good.
Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

*Pray for people persecuted for their faith that they will find strength from God
Stop and give God some extra time, seek refuge in him*